



ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE

Provincial Operations Intelligence Bureau

PROJECT HENDON – STRATEGIC INTELLIGENCE OVERVIEW

2022-02-26 // 1230 HOURS // HENDON 055-2022

The next report will be issued Monday, February 28, 2022.

KEY INFORMATION: (No Change)

1. Provincially the Freedom Movement remains stable following enforcement operations in Ottawa to disperse the Freedom Convoy and BearHug 2.0 actions.
2. A number of Freedom Movement and Public Health Protests are anticipated to take place around the province on February 26 and 27, 2022, in keeping with the current momentum of the anti-government movement as a whole.
3. The Russian-Ukrainian conflict may generate protest activity, events, and criminality arising from Canada's stated opposition to the military actions of the Russian state.

The Project HENDON Report contains information reported by the National Capital Region Command Centre – Combined Intelligence Group (NCRCC - CIG) which includes reporting from deployed resources and real-time police observations.

Freedom (Patriot) Movement & Public Health Protest

Ottawa proper and outlying areas of **Arnprior** (White Lake Rd), **Vankleek Hill** (Splendron Farm), and **Perth-Smith Falls** remain a hub of Freedom movement organizing. Police information reports a small number of participants joined the encampment at Arnprior last night for nighttime festivities. Information circulated through social media platforms indicates there is another event planned for tonight following a day of protest activity in Ottawa proper. (See below) One of the individuals who appears to have assumed a leadership role at the Arnprior encampment is Colin "Big Bear" ROSS. The British Columbia resident and Freedom Movement entrepreneur has become known to police for his involvement in promoting and circulating protest events as well as false narratives that have at times been inflammatory and misrepresentative of Indigenous support to the Freedom Convoy 2022.

Ottawa and Surrounding Area Events:

- **Confederation Park** – Event started at 09:00 hours, police information reports approximately 50 to 60 participants attended near the flame before departing on foot possibly toward the **War Museum** for an 11:00 hours event "Take Action Canada Protest", where speeches and presentations had been scheduled.

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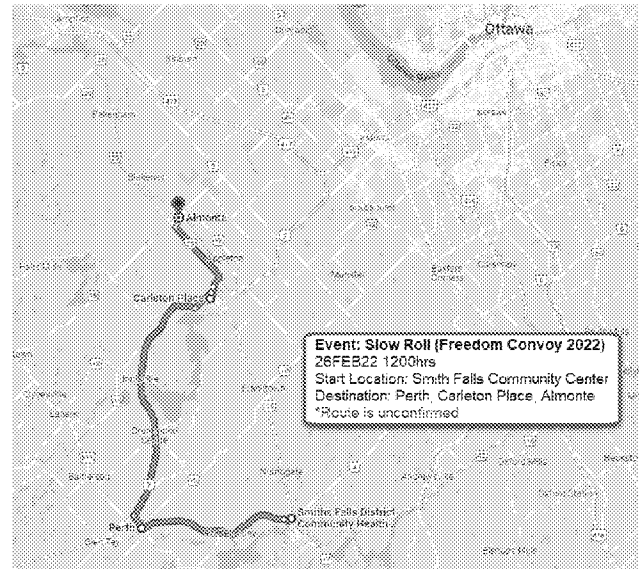


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Local support convoys: A convoy departing from the **Smith Falls** area toward **Almonte** is underway with no issues reported. Organizers relayed to police they had viewed social media messages which suggested community members not in support of the convoy may throw bricks at the vehicles partaking in the action, police advised they would respond appropriately should that occur. Police liaisons were able to mitigate a potential concern of the convoy travelling toward a local hospital. At the time of writing, a counter-protester had attempted to block the route of the convoy.

Vankleek Hill – (Splendorn Farm) Police information indicated some participants from the Vankleek Hill encampment would be travelling through Hawkesbury toward Lachute, QC. Once in Lachute the group may join a contingent of approximately 200 vehicles already gathered. Police information reported one of the organizers is a known FARFADAA member who had figured prominently during the Ottawa occupation. The Lachute contingent may also be joined by a group of approximately 80 vehicles and 1 bobtail tractor that had departed from Halte 50, Brownsburg QC. Should this be the case, the group would total approximately 300 vehicles. Early information suggested the group may return to Vankleek Hill, although an established timeline has been determined, and the information remains unconfirmed at the time of writing. No issues have been reported.



Provided for situational awareness, [REDACTED] remain in custody. Messaging circulating social media accounts associated with the Freedom Movement continue to call for actions against correctional facilities where the trio are being detained. Supporters are urged to call the Ottawa-Carleton Detention Centre as well as attend in person for protest. No demonstrations have been reported to date. Stakeholders are engaged. As well, Ottawa Police Service has issued messaging through social media communicating instructions for retrieving vehicles that had been impounded during the unlawful demonstration.

Southwest Region & Toronto

Information shared through social media indicates some individuals from Niagara Region and Hamilton areas who could not make arrangements to attend the Ottawa area will instead attend the Queen's Park event in Toronto. No issues have been reported. The Russian-Ukrainian conflict continues to generate protest activity in the area of the US Consulate, with some protesters urging for demonstrations aimed at the Hungarian Consulate as well. This is in

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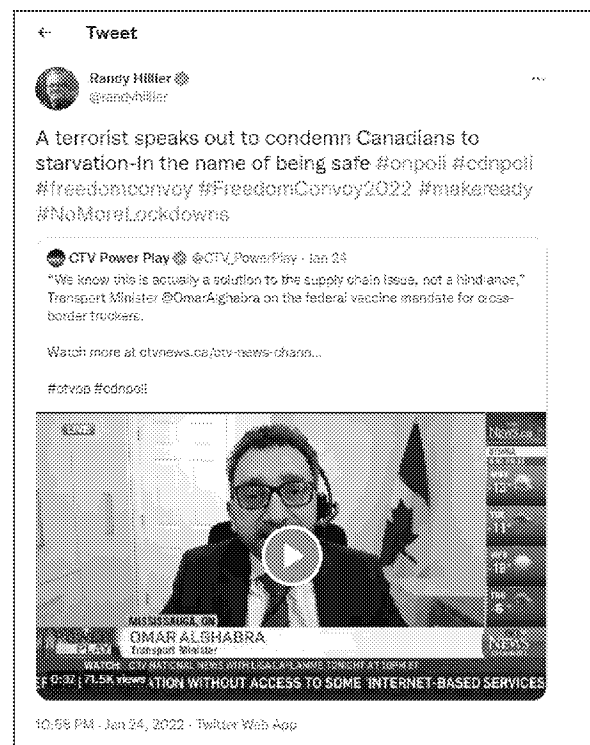
response to Hungary, Italy, and Germany denouncing the call for Russia to be removed from the SWIFT banking system.¹

No issues have been reported from protest activities taking place today. Toronto, Windsor, Sarnia, Niagara, London, and surrounding areas remain key locations for increased protest activities. (A more complete list of events can be found in Appendix A: "Anticipated Events".)

Nipigon Bridge – There is no further information identified for a protest re-scheduled for February 26, 2022. (The original date for this event was February 13, 2022).

Concerns of threats and actions directed at elected members of government as well as law enforcement personnel remain high. Peel Regional Police report they have made arrest in response to verbal threats made against Transportation Minister Omar ALGHABRA, which referenced him as a 'terrorist' among other derogatory and offensive terms. The Uxbridge, ON, male was released by way of an undertaking.

In January 2022, MPP Randy HILLIER made similar remarks on social media which prompted Public Safety Minister Marco MENDICINO among others to request Twitter remove the post. The message dated January 24, 2022, read: *"A terrorist speaks out to condemn Canadians to starvation-in the name of being safe"*, with several hashtags, #makeready, being one of them. A user responded to the tweet with: *"Did you actually call him a terrorist? That's bold"*, to which HILLIER's account wrote: *"just facts"*. "Make Ready" refers to MPP HILLIER's political campaign launched in October 2021 which had issued several propaganda-style war montage videos and called for adherents to 'make ready' their finances in preparation for self-sufficient communities ahead of a collapsed supply chain and other government harms brought about through the public health driven response to the COVID-19 pandemic.



¹ <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-60521822> and <https://fortune.com/2022/02/25/ukraine-anger-sanctions-germany-italy-hungary-europe-eu-failure-cut-russia-swift-payment-network/> - accessed 2022-02-26

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Police reporting continues to reflect a demand on resources to attend calls for service on account of public health policy non-compliance issues as well as disputes (sometimes family and custody related) arising from differing ideologies surrounding the safety of COVID-19 vaccines.

Currently, there is no specific credible threat and monitoring remains attuned to where ideologically motivated extremism may manifest among some supporters. Given the complexity of issues emerging from protests, a list of upcoming protest events is included for situational awareness, please refer to **Appendix A: "Anticipated Events"** at the end of this report.

Assessment

The actions of a counter-protester towards the Smith Falls convoy may be indicative of waning public support for the Freedom Convoy 2022. While the large number of vehicles travelling toward the Vankleek Hill encampment continues to reflect the level of commitment many within the Freedom Movement, and specifically those involved in the Ottawa occupation, maintain in pursuit of their agenda. It further supports that individuals remain ready to mobilize and that a level of planning is taking place through private messaging and closed communication channels. Additional information located through social media platforms identify March 5, 2022, as an upcoming date for demonstration actions, although specifics remain unknown at this time. As previously assessed, a number of variables may be influencing the participants gathered in Vankleek Hill and Arnprior, these include: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] remanded in custody with an unknown timeline for release; a perception of success, community bonding, and ongoing support owing to the number of provisions and resources that exist following the disbanding of the Ottawa occupation; and a sustained level of interest exhibited by supporters and spectators who follow the social media accounts associated with the Freedom Convoy 2022.

The incident targeting Transportation Minister ALGHABRA and the arrest by Peel Regional Police support an existence of increased threat level toward elected government officials emanating from persons within the Freedom Movement. To what extent, this event and these remarks may have been influenced by MPP Randy HILLIER is unknown; however, HILLIER has been a central fixture of anti-government organizing since the early days of the Freedom Movement and was notably outspoken during the Ottawa Occupation.

Aside from these developments today, the strategic assessment from yesterday still holds:

Reporting from all sources, police, media, and social media, combine to form an intelligence overview that illustrates a protest landscape of relative stability. By all accounts the Freedom Movement appears to be regenerating itself and evolving; although the scope, intent, and capability for future actions remains unknown. Indicators from the voices of protesters indicate several within the movement are no less committed to achieving their objectives of pursuing a government change without the authority of law; however, appear to be re-strategizing their methods. Notably, planning and events appear to be forming in closed groups. This could mean larger events may arise spontaneously

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or with short lead times. While exact planning methodology is not known, observations from previous ideologically motivated movements suggest organizers could employ tactics where only a small number of persons are aware of the actual plan, while participants have been recruited and mobilized under general terminology of participating in a protest. While this poses a challenge to law enforcement, continued efforts and engagement with protest organizers where possible could mitigate this potential. The enforcement actions in Windsor and Ottawa appear to have lessened the mobilization of out of province participants and deterred some individuals from engaging in further criminality. However, where large scale civil unrest may be temporarily diminished, there remains a heightened awareness to lone actor and small group actions. These types of actions have recently been observed against police and law enforcement personnel, including the doxing of officers involved in the Ottawa enforcement operations, and have extended to criminal extremism in the form of vandalism and acts carried out toward elected officials. Constituency offices and personal residences of elected officials remain vulnerable to events of protest and ideologically motivated criminal extremism. External variables may affect the duration of this current ebb in protest activity; such as the removal of some public health mandates in Ontario, March 1, 2022; and world events specifically the Russian-Ukrainian conflict. A freedom convoy appears to be mobilizing in the United-States towards Washington DC, between March 5 and 7, 2022; this may serve to re-energize nationally organized movements. Currently, on the horizon for March 5, 2022, is a nationally organized Freedom Chain – whereby participants will form a chain along highways linked across the country – the true logistics and participation interest for this event are limited. Efforts to identify are ongoing.

The realization of an action, attack, or incident result from where intent and capability meet with opportunity. Relative threat levels can increase or decrease in response to an actor's personal circumstances and where these may be influenced by their perception of urgency to bring about change.

The Russian-Ukrainian conflict may bring about a number of protests, events, and criminality acted out against persons or property in relation to this activity and Canada's stated opposition to the military actions of the Russian state. Please forward any activity of this nature – where required it will be forwarded to the appropriate client for awareness and action.

Through a co-ordination of efforts, the OPP continues to provide situational awareness supporting operations at provincial tables.

Please send all information and/or intelligence regarding relevant suspicious incidents or acts of criminal extremism to the following Project Hendon intake email address:

OPP.Project.Hendon@opp.ca

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Appendix "A" – Anticipated Events

OTTAWA			
CURRENT SITUATION - OTTAWA			
* see HENDON report			
ANTICIPATED EVENTS - OTTAWA			
DATE	TIME	NAME	COMMENTS
Daily	1100 hrs	Freedom Rally Ottawa	Canadian War Museum – 1 Vimy Place, Ottawa Daily at 1100 hrs From Instagram page We Are All Essential Unknown participants

OTHER AREAS / EVENTS			
OTHER EVENTS - WEEK OF 21 FEBRUARY 2022			
TIME	LOCATION	NAME	COMMENTS
Week of 21 Feb 2022	Canada	FREEDOM WEEK	Week of 21 Feb 2022 Organizers associated to the Ottawa truck convoy are encouraging individuals to participate in a week of civil disobedience
OTHER EVENTS - SUNDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2022			
TIME	LOCATION	NAME	COMMENTS
1100 hrs	Niagara on the Lake	Niagara Local Convoy	Meet at Husky in Niagara on the Lake
1200 hrs	Orangeville	Dufferin – Caledon Community Gathering WE STAND WITH OUR TRUCKERS	Post from Canada Protests and Freedom to Assemble Information Page Time: 1200 hrs Location: Rotary Park, 80 2nd Ave, Orangeville Unknown participants
1300 hrs	Victoria Park, London	The 22Movement - Freedom Parties	Freedom Parties in Victoria Park Speakers from: - Ontario Libertarian Party - People's Party of Canada (PPC) - New Blue Ontario - None of the Above Party (NOTA)
OTHER EVENTS - SATURDAY 05 MARCH 2022			

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TIME	LOCATION	NAME	COMMENTS
1300 hrs 1400 hrs	Canada	Freedom Chain Across Canada	Freedom Chain across Canada to take place on Trans-Canada Highway(s) Ontario Route: Hwy 17 at Manitoba border – Hwy 11 in North Bay – Hwy 12 through Orillia – Hwy 7 – Hwy 417 to Quebec Border
OTHER EVENTS - EARLY/MID-MARCH 2022			
TIME	LOCATION	NAME	COMMENTS
Various	Washington DC, USA	Several convoys to Washington DC, USA	Several trucker convoys are expected to converge on Washington DC in early to mid-March. Disruptions to traffic expected on major roadways beginning 23 Feb 2022. Major disruptions anticipated in the Washington DC area from 05-07 March 22. May impact the Canadian Diplomatic Mission located at 501 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington DC.

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Approved: Date:	Brent Elbers, D/S/Sgt. 26 February 2022	B. ELBERS

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